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Keswick Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

John Patterson, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR
1958

Together with the Summary of Work
of the Public Health Inspector



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KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my 5th Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health to the Keswick Urban District Council.

The year was marked by the bringing into operation of the new clinic premises which are fully equipped to provide all necessary services, such as vaccination against smallpox and poliomyelitis, immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough, child welfare, school health, orthopædic physiotherapy, speech therapy and dental services. The provision of a Consultant School Health Ophthalmic clinic here has been a boon to parents and children alike, who previously had to travel to Cockermouth or Carlisle.

Many thanks are due to the County Medical Officer, Dr. W. H. P. Minto, for his interest and co-operation in bringing this about. To Mr. Lusher, who continues to be most able and conscientious and to the Clerk and his staff I would express my appreciation of their help during the year.

Finally I wish to express my thanks to all the members of the Council for their courtesy and kindness shown to me at all times.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

JOHN PATTERSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres) : 1,272.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population :
(mid-1958) — 4,680 ; (mid-1957) — 4,700.

Number of inhabited houses : 1,638.

Rateable Value : £60,325.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £244.

The Tables of Vital Statistics are set out below, showing birth rates, death rates and rates for maternal and infantile mortality.

Crude birth and death rates are corrected by means of an Area Comparability Factor supplied each year by the Registrar General. They allow for varying age and sex distribution of the population in different areas and enable comparisons to be made with figures for other areas.

This year the factor for births is 1.00 and for deaths 0.86. The total live births were 63, 13 more than in 1957, resulting in a birth rate of 13.5 (13.5 corrected) compared with 10.6 in 1957. Four of the births were illegitimate.

There were two infant deaths which represents a rate of 32.0 per thousand live births compared with 0.0 in 1957. The National rate for 1958 is 22.5 per thousand live births.

The number of deaths at all ages was 72 which gives a death rate of 15.4 (13.3 corrected) compared with 13.4 (11.5 corrected) in 1957.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

Deaths from cancer decreased from 11 to 10 over the previous year. Cancer of lung and bronchus increased from 1 to 4.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population of the URBAN DISTRICT (mid-1958) — 4,680.

LIVE BIRTHS—

Year		Males	Females	Total	Grand Total	Rate per 1,000 uncor- rected	pop. cor- rected
1953	Legitimate	27	14	41			
	Illegitimate	0	2	2	43	9.0	9.0
1954	Legitimate	23	21	44			
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	44	9.2	9.2
1955	Legitimate	31	20	51			
	Illegitimate	0	1	1	52	10.9	10.9
1956	Legitimate	18	21	39			
	Illegitimate	0	1	1	40	8.5	8.5
1957	Legitimate	19	29	48			
	Illegitimate	1	1	2	50	10.6	10.6
1958	Legitimate	31	28	59			
	Illegitimate	3	1	4	63	13.5	13.5

STILL BIRTHS—

Year		Males	Females	Total	Grand Total	Rate per 1,000 of Population
1953	Legitimate	1	0	1		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	1	.21
1954	Legitimate	0	0	0		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1955	Legitimate	0	1	1		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	1	0.21
1956	Legitimate	0	1	1		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	1	0.21
1957	Legitimate	1	2	3		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	3	0.64
1958	Legitimate	2	0	2		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	2	0.42

DEATHS—

Year	Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1,000 pop. uncorrected	Rate per 1,000 pop. corrected
1953	28	24	52	10.9	8.6
1954	24	34	58	12.2	9.6
1955	26	39	65	13.6	10.7
1956	32	39	71	15.0	14.9
1957	30	33	63	13.4	11.5
1958	39	33	72	15.4	13.3

MATERNAL MORTALITY—

Year	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 births
1953	0	0.0
1954	0	0.0
1955	0	0.0
1956	0	0.0
1957	0	0.0
1958	0	0.0

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES—

Year	Deaths of infants under 1 yr.	All infants per 1,000 live births	Legitimate infants per 1,000 live legitimate births	Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births
1953	1	23	24	0
1954	0	0	0	0
1955	1	19	19	0
1956	1	25	25	0
1957	0	0	0	0
1958	2	32	32	0

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE—

Year	Pulmonary T.B. Deaths	Other T.B. Deaths	Total T.B. Deaths	Pulmonary T.B. death rate per 1,000 pop.	Total T.B. death rate per 1,000 pop.
1953	1	0	1	0.21	0.21
1954	1	0	1	0.21	0.21
1955	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
1956	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
1957	0	1	1	0.0	0.21
1958	0	0	0	0.0	0.0

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE RATES (uncorrected)—

Birth Rate :

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
England and Wales	15.5	15.2	15.0	15.7	16.1	16.4
County of Cumberland	16.7	16.4	16.4	16.9	17.9	17.6
Urban Districts of Cumb.	17.5	17.5	16.7	17.5	18.8	18.0
Keswick Urban	9.0	9.2	10.9	8.5	10.6	13.5

Death Rate :

England and Wales	11.4	11.3	11.7	11.7	11.5	11.7
County of Cumberland	11.9	11.9	12.2	12.2	12.1	12.1
Urban Districts of Cumb.	11.8	11.4	12.2	12.3	12.2	12.6
Keswick Urban	10.9	12.2	13.6	15.0	13.4	15.4

Infantile Mortality :

England and Wales	26.8	25.5	24.9	23.8	23.0	22.5
County of Cumberland	27	27.6	28.4	30.4	26.4	28.1
Urban Districts of Cumb.	30	24.9	27.3	32.5	25.8	35.1
Keswick Urban	23	0.0	19.2	25.0	0.0	31.8

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1958

Causes of Death				Male	Female
All Causes				39	33
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, Other .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
4. Diphtheria .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
5. Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
6. Meningo-coccal infections .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
8. Measles .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach .. .. .	..	..	..	1	—
11. „ „ lung, bronchus .. .. .	..	..	..	3	1
12. „ „ breast .. .. .	..	..	..	—	2
13. „ „ uterus .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
14. Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. .. .	..	..	..	2	1
15. Leukoemia, aleukoemia .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
16. Diabetes .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system .. .. .	..	..	..	4	5
18. Coronary Disease, angina .. .. .	..	..	..	16	5
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease .. .. .	..	..	..	1	2
20. Other Heart Disease .. .. .	..	..	..	5	8
21. Other circulatory diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	—	3
22. Influenza .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
23. Pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	..	1	—
24. Bronchitis .. .. .	..	..	..	1	—
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .. .. .	..	..	..	1	1
26. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis .. .. .	..	..	..	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .. .. .	..	..	..	1	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
31. Congenital malformations .. .. .	..	..	..	1	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	1	2
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents .. .. .	..	..	..	—	1
34. All other accidents .. .. .	..	..	..	—	1
35. Suicide .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
36. Homicide and operations of war .. .. .	..	..	..	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age — Total				2	0

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths under one year showing varying causes and ages :—

Cause of Death	Under 1 Week	1—2 Weeks	2—3 Weeks	3—4 Weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total under 1 year
Cerebral Haemorrhage							1			2
Meningitis						1				

SENILE DEATH RATE

Age at Death		Males	Females	Total
65-70 years	..	7	6	13
70-75 years	..	3	5	8
75-80 years	..	3	5	8
80-85 years	..	6	6	12
85-90 years	..	3	4	7
90-95 years	..	3	0	3
Totals ..	..	25	26	51

Senile Death Rate 70% of total deaths (1957—73%).

DEATHS FROM VIOLENCE

Cause		No. of Deaths	% of all causes	Rate per 1,000 of population
Suicide	1958	0	0.0	0.0
	1957	0	0.0	0.0
Road Traffic Accidents	1958	1	1.4	0.21
	1957	0	0.0	0.0
Other Violence	1958	1	1.4	0.21
	1957	1	1.6	0.21
Total	1958	2	2.8	0.42
	1957	1	1.6	0.21

DEATHS FROM CANCER

System	Site of Disease Primary Organ	Males	Females
Alimentary	Stomach	1	0
	Colon	0	1
Respiratory	Bronchus	1	0
	Lung	2	1
Glandular	Prostate	1	0
	Breast	0	2
Tegumental	Tongue	1	0
TOTAL		6	4

Age at Death	Males	Females	Totals
Between 30 and 40 years	1	1	2
Between 50 and 60 years	0	1	1
Between 60 and 70 years	3	2	5
Between 70 and 80 years	1	0	1
80 years and upwards	1	0	1
Totals	6	4	10

Cancer Death Rate 2.35 per 1,000 population (1957—2.3 per 1,000 pop.)

Approximately 1 death in 7 was due to Cancer.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were no infectious diseases notified in 1958, apart from 4 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There were no notifications of enteric fever or food poisoning.

CASES ON THE TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	Males	Females	Totals
Pulmonary ..	14	12	26
Non-Pulmonary .	1	7	8
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
All Cases ..	15	19	34

POLIOMYELITIS

Supplies of vaccine became plentiful during the year and all children up to and including those aged 15 who had requested vaccination completed a course of two injections.

Vaccination was made available to everyone from 15 to 25 years of age and sessions were held at varying times such as lunch hour and after working hours in the evening.

At the end of the year the position was as follows :—

	0—14 years	15—26 years	Total
Awaiting	54	34	88
Had 1 injection	14	2	16
Had 2 injections	675	38	713
Had 3 injections	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total registration	743	74	817

The position in the group 15 to 25 years is poor, and the most pressing problem at one time during the year was how to prevent waste of valuable vaccine obtained for this age group, as each batch of vaccine has an expiry date.

Happily at the time of writing this report (mid-1959) the position has changed for the better and all groups have responded to publicity to such an extent that for a short while vaccine stocks were insufficient to meet the demand.

Third injections (booster doses) are recommended not sooner than seven months after the second injection and although none of these were carried out before the close of 1958, all children who had registered and were attending schools in Keswick were given a third before the 1959 summer vacation.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Age at Vaccination	-1	1	2-4	5-14	over 15 yrs.	Total
Primary Vaccination	50	2	—	1	9	62
Re-vaccination	—	—	—	1	32	33

IMMUNISATION

DIPHTHERIA.—There were again no notifications of Diphtheria ; the case rate and death rates, therefore, respectively, were nil.

The immunisation campaign against diphtheria was continued as before, but had to take second place to the Poliomyelitis vaccination programme.

During the year under review 53 infants under 5 years were given primary injections (two at intervals of a few weeks), several by their own private doctors.

It is considered essential to reiterate that sustained effort must continue to be made by all concerned to achieve the level of immunisation necessary among children generally, and particularly in regard to infants under one year of age and in the 0 to 5 years group.

WHOOPIING COUGH.—29 infants under the age of 5 years completed a course of immunisation against Whooping Cough.

All these various procedures of immunising are carried out at the Local Authority's Child Welfare Clinic which is held at Bank Street every Thursday.

B.C.G. (TUBERCULOSIS)

Mantoux testing, Mass Miniature Radiography and B.C.G. vaccination was continued in 1958, the age group concerned being those born in 1944.

Of the 140 children in this age group attending schools in Keswick 92 were tested (consent rate of 68%) and 19 (21.0%) were found to be positive reactors, i.e., to have been in contact with tuberculosis. The remaining 72 were given B.C.G. vaccination which was successful in all cases. The figure of 21.0% for positive reactors is about the average for the County as a whole, and is below the figures for 1956 and 1957.

Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases

Influenza was prevalent for 2 months at the beginning of the year but at its peak did not cause the level of sickness benefit claims to rise above four times the average weekly normal.

KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my 8th Annual Report on public health work carried out in my department, during the year ended 31st December, 1958.

The most noticeable feature of this work included a clean food drive which was designed to secure the highest possible standards of cleanliness in the preparation and handling of food stuffs. In a visiting resort with a relatively high proportion of cafes and catering establishments the implementing of the Food Hygiene Regulations is of prime importance and it is pleasing to note that in a large majority of proprietors of food establishments there is a growing sense of responsibility in this direction.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

RALPH LUSHER,

Public Health Inspector.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

1. Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
2. One Public Health Inspector, Mr. Ralph Lusher, M.A.P.H.I.,
M.Inst.H.E., being also the Surveyor and Water Engineer.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA WATER SUPPLY

The yield from the various supplies continues to be adequate at all times.

Chlorination was continued during the year.

30 samples of water were submitted for analysis during the year, 27 of which were regarded by the analyst as highly satisfactory.

The water is soft in character and lead pipes are not used owing to the liability of plumbo solvency. Copper service pipes are used throughout the district.

With the exception of 8 houses at High Briery, where there is a standpipe, all premises have a piped supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No major extension of the sewerage system was carried out and no progress appeared to be made towards improving the Sewage Works which are inadequate to treat properly the amount of sewage passing through.

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE

2 Karrier Bantam refuse wagons are employed but one of these is used part time on other work.

Very few complaints are received and this service is generally satisfactory.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping and a full time attendant is in charge of the refuse tip.

The salvage of paper and cardboard was continued during the year and comparative figures of sales in the past five years are as follows :—

1953.	49 tons sold for £370.
1954.	63 tons sold for £485.
1955.	92 tons sold for £800.
1956.	140 tons sold for £1,042.
1957.	139 tons sold for £996.
1958.	160 tons sold for £1,076.

In addition, scrap iron, rags, woollens, and non-ferrous metals were sold to the value of £132.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Summary supplied by the Public Health Inspector to the Medical Officer of Health, in pursuance of Article XIX of the Sanitary Officer's Order, 1926.

Premises inspected during the year	557
Nuisances or defects discovered	139
do. do. remedied after informal acts	125
do. do. remedied after informal action	125
do. do. remedied after statutory notice	0
Housing Inspections under Public Health or Housing Acts ..	217
Factory Inspections	6

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

A total of 6 inspections were made by the Public Health Inspector and no defects were found. The following table shows the position in this district at the end of 1954 :—
this district at the end of 1958 :—

	Premises	Number	Inspections	Defects Found	Written Notices	Defects Reminded	Prosecutions
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	16	4	—	—	—	—
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	43	2	—	—	—	—
(iii)	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Totals	59	6	—	—	—	—

(Section 1 refers to Cleanliness, 2 to overcrowding, 3 Temperature, 4 Ventilation, 6 Drainage of Floors, and 7 Sanitary Conveniences).

The above figures include 5 bakehouses.
Outworkers—Nil.

SHOPS ACT, 1934

Periodic inspections were made by the Public Health Inspector. No action was taken during the year.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Council employees undertake treatment as recommended. The sewers were treated several times during the year and the refuse tip was treated 6 times. Treatments were also carried out at 9 private houses and 1 business premises.

HOUSING APPENDIX

STATISTICS

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

1. (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	36
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	75
2. (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932)	0
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ..	0
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	18

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices: Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	13
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CARAVAN SITES

There are three licensed caravan sites in the district and these were inspected on many occasions.

HOUSING

Three houses were built by private enterprise during 1958. No Council houses were built during the year.

The general position as regards housing in the district is reasonably good. There are no really bad slums comparable with those in some of the large cities but there is no doubt that there is a need in the district for the renovation of many of the older houses and for the erection of a substantial number of new houses to let at rents which the people who are most in need can afford to pay. Unfortunately the provisions in the Housing Act, 1949, which gave local authorities power to make Grants available for the improvement of old property have not been used in this district as much as one had hoped and the high interest rates make it very difficult to erect new houses which can be let at reasonable rents.

Two applications were made for improvement Grants and Grants were made in each case. The work under one of the Grants is proceeding but in the other case the applicants did not accept the offer.

The Council own a total of 345 houses and have recently acquired 20 small cottages which are situated in the development area behind Main Street. Schemes are now in course of preparation for the demolition of four of these houses and the re-conditioning of the remaining 16 houses.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk and Dairies

There were 14 registered milk retailers, six of these being producers and retailers in the Urban District.

Five licences have been issued for the selling of Designated Milk in the Keswick Urban District during 1958.

14 samples of milk were submitted to the analyst for examination for the presence of M Tuberculosis. All were negative.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are no slaughter houses in the Urban District, all meat is transported from abattoirs outside the district.

The following is a brief summary of food stuffs for which 28 certificates of unsoundness were issued by the Public Health Inspector.

203 lbs. cooked meat, 66 lbs. beef, 66 lbs. egg whites and 14 tins of various foods. These food stuffs were removed by the refuse collectors and buried at the refuse tip.

BAKEHOUSES. — There are five in existence. As usual all these premises were periodically inspected.

ICE CREAM. — Registered premises for manufacture or sale 37.
Registered premises for sale only 28.

FOOD (Preparation and Manufacture) Premises.

Registered premises for the preparation and manufacture of foods—11.

Food Hygiene Regulations

The whole of the cafes, hotels and food premises were inspected under these Regulations and a report was submitted to the Council on the infringements which were discovered. For this purpose 102 inspections were made and 12 informal notices were sent to occupiers. Eight verbal requests were made to butchers etc. for counter screens to be provided. All these notices and requests were complied with except in one case where repeated inspections and warnings proved to be of no avail and proceedings were taken in the court. Eleven charges under the Food Hygiene Regulations were made and the defendant pleaded guilty to all the charges. A total fine of £17 with £4. 4s. 0d. advocates fees was imposed.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING 1958

Smoke Control	2
Drainage	18
Buildings etc.	144
Water services	69
Means of Escape from Fire	10
Tuberculosis Register	18
Milk and Dairies	66
Council Houses	64
Housing complaints	19
Allotments	13
Camping sites	8
Certificates of Disrepair	4
Food Hygiene	100
Refuse disposal	22
<hr/>	
Total number of Inspections ..	557
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During the second half of the year a number of complaints were received regarding the keeping quality of milk and a thorough investigation was made into the methods of all persons bottling milk in the district. In this investigation 66 inspections were made, 42 milk samples were taken and 37 swabs and rinses of equipment were tested at the laboratory. As a result of this investigation one of the retailers was asked to appear before the Public Health Committee and I am pleased to say that subsequent milk samples have reflected an improvement in the general hygiene and methods of working at this dairy.

METEOROLOGICAL STATION

Height above sea level, 254 feet.

Lat. 54° 36' N. Long. 3° 9' W.

RETURNS FOR 1958

RAINFALL						SUNSHINE		
Month		Amount Ins. Days		Average 54 years		Amount Hrs. Days		Average 54 years
January	...	6.47 on 17	...	6.08	...	30.3 on 14	...	33.5
February	...	5.43 on 21	...	4.43	...	39.3 on 12	...	53.7
March	...	1.22 on 17	...	3.66	...	99.8 on 26	...	119.9
April	...	1.98 on 12	...	3.12	...	150.7 on 27	...	134.9
May	...	4.99 on 26	...	3.25	...	153.0 on 27	...	181.6
June	...	3.98 on 20	...	3.18	...	130.0 on 22	...	179.5
July	...	3.26 on 19	...	4.08	...	183.0 on 28	...	153.2
August	...	6.72 on 21	...	5.33	...	113.9 on 28	...	139.0
September	...	6.43 on 17	...	5.14	...	120.6 on 28	...	115.0
October	...	5.41 on 21	...	5.85	...	53.4 on 21	...	78.9
November	...	1.19 on 10	...	5.52	...	45.8 on 20	...	46.0
December	...	3.96 on 20	...	6.53	...	24.3 on 22	...	27.6
Totals		51.05 on 221			1144.1 on 275			

Average Annual Rainfall, 56 years, 57.3.

Average Annual Sunshine Hours, 56 years, 1262.8.

TEMPERATURES

Highest Maximum (in screen)	Lowest Minimum (in screen)	Lowest Minimum (on grass)	Nights Frost	Wind at Gale Force	Snow Lying
59.0 on 27, 28th	11.0 on 23rd	7.0 on 22nd	17	1	7
59.0 on 13th	18.0 on 6th	12.0 on 7th	16	—	7
52.0 on 12th	17.0 on 10, 11th	11.0 on 10th	21	—	5
64.0 on 30th	25.0 on 10th	15.0 on 11th	14	—	1
74.0 on 1st	32.0 on 7th	23.0 on 13th	6	—	—
77.0 on 14th	41.0 on 15th	34.0 on 4th	—	—	—
76.0 on 4, 8th	38.0 on 25th	32.0 on 25th	—	—	—
75.0 on 10, 19th	42.0 on 24th	36.0 on 25th	—	—	—
76.0 on 2nd	36.0 on 26th	26.0 on 4th	1	1	—
61.0 on 1st	30.0 on 18th	25.0 on 18th	5	—	—
56.0 on 16th	26.0 on 11th	13.0 on 11th	21	—	—
54.0 on 25th	25.0 on 15th	13.0 on 7th	—	—	—

(Average Daily Temperature, 45.25

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Month	Highest 1 ft.	Lowest 1 ft.	Highest 4 ft.	Lowest 4 ft.	Calm	Quadrant—			
						N'th	S'th	East	West
January	41.0	35.0	45.5	42.4	10	3	7	6	5
February	42.5	37.0	43.0	42.0	8	6	3	4	7
March	43.0	34.6	42.8	40.6	6	4	3	16	2
April	50.0	39.2	45.0	41.2	8	5	2	5	10
May	52.9	48.9	49.4	45.4	11	2	6	4	8
June	59.0	53.8	53.6	49.2	12	4	9	5	0
July	65.0	59.5	57.5	53.5	13	4	2	6	5
August	62.4	59.6	58.3	57.4	13	0	9	2	7
September	63.5	54.9	59.0	57.6	17	0	7	4	2
October	56.6	49.0	57.5	54.0	13	3	5	1	9
November	50.1	42.0	54.4	49.5	21	1	1	7	0
December	42.2	36.5	49.2	45.0	10	1	5	10	5
Totals					143	33	59	70	60

ABNORMAL PRECIPITATION

November 2nd & 3rd, 1931	6.16 inches in 36 hours.
November 3rd, 1931	4.86 „
November 12th, 1938	3.37 „
November 4th, 1926	3.30 „ in 9½ hours.
December 24th, 1925	3.52 „
August 2nd, 1923	3.60 „
July 13th, 1932	2.56 „ in 5 hours.
December 2nd, 1902	3.12 „

SUNDRY NOTES

Lightning observed	...	...	...	9 days
Thunder heard	...	...	...	9 days
Thunderstorm with precipitation	...	...	...	9 days
More than 1 inch of rain fell on	...	...	...	5 days
More than 2 inches of rain fell on	...	...	...	Nil
Visibility less than 1,000 yards	...	...	...	8 days
Warmest day — June 14th	...	...	...	77.0
Coldest night — January 23rd	...	...	...	11.0
Lowest Minimum (on Grass), January 22nd	...	...	...	7.0

WEATHER OF 1958

The Lake District does not bear too good a reputation as regards weather—the craze for sensation is obvious in the daily press, a heavy shower causing a stream to overflow and impede traffic will receive more publicity than it deserves though it may be of very short duration. Newspaper reports and radio publicity of heavy rainfall in the Lake District, causes much speculation as to where the flooding may be. Blocked culverts may lead to sensational reports of flooding, but it is difficult to locate the scene of the “phenomena.” Snow on the hills need not be a foretaste of winter, for the sun rising earlier on the longer days disperses the snow before news is spread throughout the country. Venturesome school-boys give rise to “skating in Lakeland.” Such propaganda cannot be good publicity unless it is reasonably true.

JANUARY.—The rainfall average was maintained. A northerly gale was experienced on the 8th. Snow lay on the hills and on the 18th was augmented and the lower ground was covered to the 25th. A milder spell with heavy rain cleared the snow.

FEBRUARY.—A wintry spell was renewed on the 5th, and until the 10th there were snow showers each day, and again rain cleared the fells. Another short spell from the 23rd to 28th coincided with clear skies and bright sunshine, and again snow was cleared by rain.

MARCH.—A fine dry month with frost on 17 nights and 19 dry days. Slight snow lay on five days, 11th to 14th.

APRIL.—Another fairly dry month with above average sunshine.

MAY.—The longer days and warm sun were well watered by a sufficiency of rain rather above normal.

JUNE.—A rather dull month, average rain, more than average cloud.

JULY.—A fine summery month with less rain and more bright sunshine than average. Thunderstorms on the 27th and 29th.

AUGUST gave average rainfall; two violent thunderstorms on the 10th and 22nd, the severity of which deserve special mention. On Sunday the 10th the storm broke at 6-15 p.m. and lasted till 7-50 p.m. during which period 1.52 ins. of rain was registered; roads and streets were flooded; thunder and lightning violent.

SEPTEMBER.—Rainfall above average; sunshine normal; winds light, mainly easterly.

OCTOBER.—A quiet month. First half, showers with a thunderstorm; second half, dry and cloudy.

NOVEMBER.—Another dry month; mainly calm and frosty.

DECEMBER.—A normal wintry month; snow on hills, frost below; fairly dry and mild at Christmas.

ARRIVAL OF MIGRANT BIRDS, 1958

Wheatear	April 8th
Cuckoo	April 28th
Swallows	April 29th
Swifts	April 29th
Chiffchaff	April 16th
Willow Warbler	April 17th
Whooper Swans	September

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